

REMARKS

Claims 2, 8, 11, and 12 have been canceled without prejudice.

Claims 1, 7, 9-10, and 13-14 are now in the application.

Claims 1, 7, and 10 have been amended for clarity and to recite the elected fabric abrasion polymers.

Claim 9 has been amended to depend from Claim 1.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made".

Restriction / Election

A restriction requirement has been issued under 35 U.S.C. §§ 121 and 372 because the application allegedly contains the following groups of inventions that are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1:

Group I: Claims 1, 2, 7, 10, and 12-14, drawn to compositions comprising polyvinylpyrrolidone units;

Group II: Claims 1, 2, 7, 10, 13, and 14, drawn to compositions comprising polyvinylloxalidone units;

Group III: Claims 1, 2, 7, 10, 13, and 14, drawn to compositions comprising polyacrylamide units;

Group IV: Claims 1, 2, 7, 10, 13, and 14, drawn to compositions comprising polyacrylylglycinamide units;

Group V: Claims 1, 2, 7, 10, 13, and 14, drawn to compositions comprising polyvinylurethane units;

Group VI: Claims 1, 10, 11, 13, and 14, drawn to compositions comprising poly(2-ethyl-2-oxazoline);

Group VII: Claims 1, 7, 10, 13, and 14, drawn to compositions comprising fabric abrasion polymers not provided for in Groups I-VI;

Group VIII: Claims 8 and 9, drawn to compositions comprising polyvinylpyrrolidone.

Applicants hereby confirm the previous telephonic provisional election of Group III, drawn to compositions comprising polyacrylamides and polymethacrylamides, with

traverse. Applicants have amended the present claims to cancel the non-elected subject matter.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 2, 7, 10, 13, and 14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to distinctly claim the invention. The Office Action asserts that the compositions must contain a polymer comprising at least one N-oxide moiety, at least one amide moiety, *and* mixtures thereof. Since this recitation is allegedly unclear, clarification has been requested. Applicants have now amended Claims 1, 7, and 10 to recite a polymer comprising at least one N-oxide moiety, at least one amide moiety, *or* mixtures thereof. Applicants submit that this rejection is now overcome.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action indicates that Claims 1, 2, 7, 10, 13, and 14 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and to recite only the elected invention. Applicants submit that claims, as presently amended, overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and recite only the elected invention. Applicants thus submit that the claims are now in condition for allowance.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants submitted an Information Disclosure Statement dated August 9, 2001. Applicants respectfully request that Examiner note the consideration of these references via the PTO/SB08 form attached thereto.


CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and accompanying remarks, reconsideration of the application and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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April 28, 2003

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 2, 8, 11, and 12 have been canceled without prejudice.

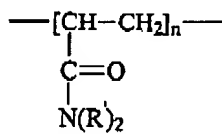
Claims 1, 7, 9, and 10 have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A fabric care composition comprising:

- a) from about 0.01% to about 20% by weight, of a fabric abrasion reducing polymer, said fabric abrasion polymer comprising:
 - i) at least one monomeric unit comprising an amide moiety;
 - ii) at least one monomeric unit comprising an N-oxide moiety; or
 - iii) [and] mixtures thereof; and
- b) the balance carriers and adjunct ingredients;

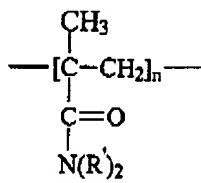
[provided] wherein the molecular weight of said fabric abrasion reducing polymer is greater than 100,000 daltons; and wherein said fabric abrasion polymer comprises one or more monomeric units selected from the group consisting of:

- i) polyacrylamides and N-substituted polyacrylamides having the formula:



wherein each R' is independently hydrogen, C₁-C₆ alkyl, or both R' units can be taken together to form a ring comprising 4-6 carbon atoms;

- ii) polymethacrylamides and N-substituted polymethacrylamides having the general formula:



wherein each R' is independently hydrogen, C₁-C₆ alkyl, or both R' units can be taken together to form a ring comprising 4-6 carbon atoms; and

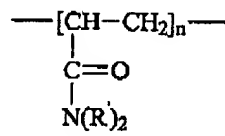
- iii) mixtures thereof.

7. (Amended) A composition which provides reduced fabric abrasion, said composition comprises:

- a) from 0.01% by weight, of a fabric abrasion reducing polymer, said fabric abrasion polymer comprising:
 - i) at least one monomeric unit comprising an amide moiety;
 - ii) at least one monomeric unit comprising an N-oxide moiety; or
 - iii) [and] mixtures thereof;
- b) optionally from 1% by weight, of a fabric softening active;
- c) optionally less than 15% by weight, of a principal solvent, said principal solvent has a ClogP of from 0.15 to 1;
- d) optionally from 0.001% to 90% by weight, of one or more dye fixing agents;
- e) optionally from 0.01% to 50% by weight, of one or more cellulose reactive dye fixing agents;
- f) optionally from 0.01% to 15% by weight, of a chlorine scavenger;
- g) optionally 0.005% to 1% by weight, of one or more crystal growth inhibitors;
- h) optionally from 1% to 12% by weight, of one or more liquid carriers;
- i) optionally from 0.001% to 1% by weight, of an enzyme;
- j) optionally from 0.01% to 8% by weight, of a polyolefin emulsion or suspension;
- k) optionally from 0.01% to 0.2% by weight, of a stabilizer;
- l) optionally from 1% to 80% by weight, of a fabric softening active;
- m) from 0.01% by weight, of one or more linear or cyclic polyamines which provide bleach protection; and
- o) the balance carrier and adjunct ingredients;

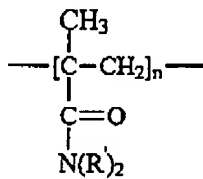
[provided] wherein the molecular weight of said fabric abrasion reducing polymer is greater than 100,000 daltons; and wherein said fabric abrasion polymer comprises one or more monomeric units selected from the group consisting of:

- i) polyacrylamides and N-substituted polyacrylamides having the formula:



wherein each R' is independently hydrogen, C₁-C₆ alkyl, or both R' units can be taken together to form a ring comprising 4-6 carbon atoms;

ii) polymethacrylamides and N-substituted polymethacrylamides having the general formula:



wherein each R' is independently hydrogen, C₁-C₆ alkyl, or both R' units can be taken together to form a ring comprising 4-6 carbon atoms; and

iii) mixtures thereof.

9. (Amended) A composition according to Claim [8] 1 further comprising a dispersibility aid system, said system comprising:

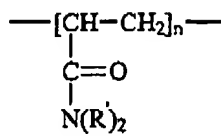
- i) 0.2% of ethoxylated cocoyl amine having an average of 10 ethoxy units; and
- ii) 0.1% of ethoxylated cocoyl alcohol having an average of 10 ethoxy units.

10. (Amended) A method for providing fabric with decreased abrasion damage comprising the step of contacting a fabric with a composition comprising:

- a) from 0.01% by weight, of a fabric abrasion reducing polymer, said fabric abrasion polymer comprising:
 - i) at least one monomeric unit comprising an amide moiety;
 - ii) at least one monomeric unit comprising an N-oxide moiety; or
 - iii) [and] mixtures thereof;
- b) optionally one or more fabric enhancement ingredients; and
- c) the balance carriers;

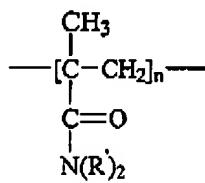
[provided] wherein the molecular weight of said fabric abrasion reducing polymer is greater than 100,000 daltons; and wherein said fabric abrasion polymer comprises one or more monomeric units selected from the group consisting of:

- i) polyacrylamides and N-substituted polyacrylamides having the formula:



wherein each R' is independently hydrogen, C₁-C₆ alkyl, or both R' units can be taken together to form a ring comprising 4-6 carbon atoms;

ii) polymethacrylamides and N-substituted polymethacrylamides having the general formula:



wherein each R' is independently hydrogen, C₁-C₆ alkyl, or both R' units can be taken together to form a ring comprising 4-6 carbon atoms; and

iii) mixtures thereof.